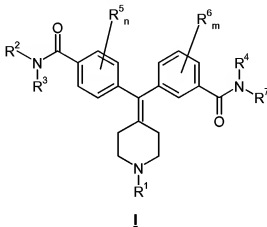


# **Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers, enantiomers, or mixtures thereof:



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, O-C(=O)-, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl or optionally substituted heteroarylalkyl;

n is 0, 1 or 2; m is 0, 1, or 2;

R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are, independently, selected from C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl and halogenated C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>2-6</sub>cycloalkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl/substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>cycloalkyl, or substituted C<sub>2-6</sub>cycloalkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are, independently, selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, optionally substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and optionally substituted C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and optionally substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together with nitrogen connected thereto form a portion of a C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycle, C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl ring.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

$R^1$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-O-C(=O)-,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-, substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-, and substituted  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are, independently,  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl or halogenated  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl-;

$R^4$  is hydrogen; and

$R^7$  is selected from ~~optionally substituted~~  $C_{6-10}$ aryl, ~~optionally substituted~~  $C_{3-6}$ heteroaryl,  ~~$C_{3-6}$ heteroaryl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl,~~ ~~optionally substituted~~  $C_{6-10}$ aryl- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{6-10}$ aryl- $C_{1-3}$ alkyl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl-, and ~~optionally substituted~~  $C_{3-6}$ heteroaryl- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-; and  
 $n$  and  $m$  are 0.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1,

wherein  $R^1$  is ~~selected from~~ hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-O-C(=O)-;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are ethyl;

$R^4$  is hydrogen; and

$R^7$  is  $C_{6-10}$ aryl or  $C_{6-10}$ aryl- $C_{1-3}$ alkyl-; and

—  $n$  and  $m$  are 0.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

$R^1$  is hydrogen;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are ethyl;

$R^4$  is hydrogen; and

$R^7$  is phenyl, benzyl or phenethyl-; and

—  $n$  and  $m$  are 0.

5. (original) A compound selected from:

4-[[3-(anilino)carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-[(benzylamino)carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-[[2-phenethyl]amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (cancelled)

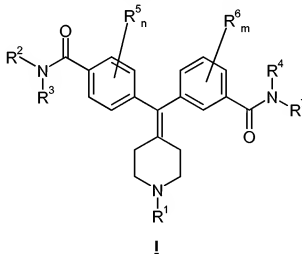
7. (previously presented) A method for the therapy of pain, anxiety or functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

8. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

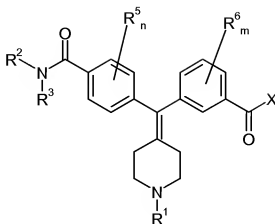
9. (previously presented) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

10. (previously presented) A method for the therapy of functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

11. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula I, comprising:



reacting a compound of formula II with  $\text{HNR}^4\text{R}^7$ :



II

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl or optionally substituted heteroarylalkyl;

n is 0, 1 or 2; m is 0, 1, or 2;

X is selected from -OH, -OR<sup>8</sup>, -O-C(=O)-R<sup>8</sup>, -Cl, -Br and -I, wherein R<sup>8</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are, independently, selected from C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl and halogenated C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl/hydrogen, C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are, independently, selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>3</sub>R, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, substituted C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, optionally substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and optionally substituted C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and optionally substituted C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together with nitrogen connected thereto form a portion of a C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycle, C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl ring.

12. (original) A process as claimed in claim 11,

wherein X is -OH;

R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl-O-C(=O)-;

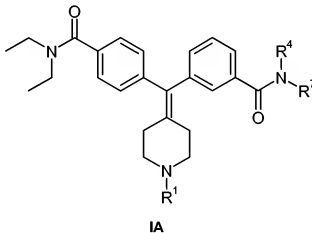
R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are ethyl;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or methyl;

R<sup>7</sup> is phenyl, benzyl, phenethyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 2-chlorobenzyl, 2-fluorobenzyl, 1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl, 4-methyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl, 2,6-dimethylpyridin-3-yl, isobutyl, or 1-ethylpropyl; or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together form 1,5-pentylene or 1,4-butylene; and

n and m are 0.

13. (currently amended) A compound of formula IA, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers thereof, enantiomers thereof, or mixtures thereof:



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from hydrogen, and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl-O-C(=O)-;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from hydrogen, or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)<sub>2</sub>R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl-CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -

~~NH<sub>2</sub>, SH, NHR<sub>2</sub>, NR<sub>2</sub>, SR, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>R, S(=O)<sub>2</sub>R, CN, OH, C(=O)OR, C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>,  
 NRC(=O)R, and NRC(=O)OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>4</sup> and  
 R<sup>7</sup> together with nitrogen connected thereto form a portion of a C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycle C<sub>3</sub>-  
 6heterocycloalkyl ring.~~

14. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 13, wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen;

R<sup>4</sup> is ~~selected from~~ hydrogen ~~and or~~ C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from C<sub>3-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl,  
 and C<sub>3-6</sub>heteroaryl, wherein said R<sup>7</sup> is further optionally substituted with one or more groups  
 selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogenated C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, NO<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, chloro, fluoro, bromo, and  
 iodo, and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl.

15. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 13, wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen;

R<sup>4</sup> is ~~selected from~~ hydrogen ~~and or~~ methyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is selected from C<sub>4-6</sub>alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, 2-phenylethyl, 1-phenylethyl, cyclopentyl,  
 thiazolyl, pyridinyl and cyclohexyl, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is further optionally substituted with one or more  
 groups selected from methyl, ~~methoxy~~, chloro, and fluoro.

16. (cancelled)

17. (original) A compound according to claim 13, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen; and

R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are directly linked to form 1,5-pentylene or 1,4-butylene.

18. (currently amended) A compound selected from:

COMPOUND 1: 4-[[3-(anilincarbonyl)phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-  
 diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 2: 4-[[3-[(benzylamino)carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-  
 diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 3: 4-[[3-[[2-phenylethyl]amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-  
 ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 4: 4-{{3-[(cyclopentylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl)-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 5: 4-{{3-[(cyclohexylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl)}~~benzoic acid~~ -N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 6: 4-[[3-(cyclohexylacetyl)phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 7: 4-[[3-[[[(2-chlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 8: 4-[[3-[[[(2-fluorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 9: 4-[[3-[[[(1R)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 10: 4-[[3-[[[(4-methyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 11: 4-[[3-[[[(2,6-dimethylpyridin-3-yl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 12: 4-[[3-[(isobutylamino)carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl)-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 13: 4-[[3-[[[(1-ethylpropyl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 14: 4-[[3-[[[methyl(2-phenylethyl)amino]carbonyl]phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

COMPOUND 15: N,N-diethyl-4-[[3-(piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl)phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]benzamide;

COMPOUND 16: N,N-diethyl-4-{piperidin-4-ylidene[3-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)phenyl]methyl}benzamide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.